

REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RALPH R. "RONNEY" SNELL

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2003

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary life and accomplishments of Ralph R. "Ronney" Snell, CPO, FAAOP, who passed away in Memphis, Tennessee, on May 11. Mr. Snell's death is a great loss to his family, his friends and members of the Orthotic & Prosthetic field.

Ronney dedicated his career to improving the quality of life for his patients and contributed greatly to the success of many Orthotic & Prosthetic companies. As a third generation Orthotic & Prosthetic practitioner, Ronney presided over his family's business, Snell's Limb and Braces, Inc., for 16 years.

Ronney served on the board of directors of Durr Fillauer Medical Inc., he served as president of Prosthetics and Orthotics Development Inc., and as director of research and development and production for Florida Brace, Inc. In addition, Ronney served as director of prosthetics and orthotics at Baptist Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Ronney founded his own company, C.F.I. Prosthetics & Orthotics in Memphis, and later worked as area manager for J.E. Hanger in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Ronney earned his certification in prosthetics in 1957 and orthotics in 1975. He made countless contributions to his profession, and he shared his knowledge and experience with everyone he met by serving as president of every major Orthotic & Prosthetic organization. Ronney was president of the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics in 1969, and he helped organize the American Academy of Orthotics and Prosthetics. Ronney became the Academy's first president in 1971 and was named a fellow member in 2002. Furthermore, Ronney served two terms as president of the American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association, the first in 1974-1975 and the second in 1998-1999.

Perhaps, Ronney will be remembered most as a mentor and teacher. Ronney held a number of teaching positions to pass along his knowledge and expertise to others. He served as a clinical instructor at the University of Tennessee's Department of Physical Therapy; he was an assistant professor of orthopedics for the University of Tennessee's rehabilitation engineering program and served as an instructor of Orthotics & Prosthetics at Northwestern University.

Ronney's life-long passion was dedicated to helping others and making a difference in their lives. His generosity and loving nature were evident in his active participation with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the donations he made in support of his ideals.

With all the lives he touched and the contributions he made, Ronney earned a wealth of accolades, including American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association's prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award, the Academy's Titus-Ferguson Award for a lifetime of achievement and a special tribute created by American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association, American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics, and the Academy to recognize his leadership in all three organizations.

Ronney Snell leaves behind a long legacy of selfless servitude to the field of Orthotics and Prosthetics, and to his family and friends. Ronney set an example for all of us to follow, and he will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring a distinguished public servant, an outstanding citizen and my friend, Ronney Snell.

PERSONEL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2003

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 21, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation. I request that the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD reflect that had I been present and voting, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 398, "yes" on rollcall No. 399, and "yes" on rollcall No. 400.

HONORING LARRY ALLEN

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2003

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Allen, a retired police officer from my hometown of Tarpon Springs who offers free computer classes to children in my congressional district.

Mr. Allen retired from the Tarpon Springs Police Department earlier this year after thirty years of dedicated service. He joined the force after high school because he wanted to serve the community in which he was raised. Mr. Allen, however, wanted to continue serving the community he once protected after his retirement. Consequently, he devotes much of his time to the Department's Cops and Kids program, which teaches children how to use, repair, and take care of computers.

The program, which allows six youngsters to participate on a rotating basis every six weeks, enables its participants to get individualized instruction that they may not otherwise receive at school. This attention allows the students to learn how to use computers as educational tools and learn more than they would without the benefit of those skills.

I am pleased that many individuals and businesses from my congressional district have supported this effort by donating computers to the program. These machines are refurbished and loaded with current software which allows the students to take computers home to assist with their school work.

Mr. Speaker, the Cops and Kids program is a shining example of what can be accomplished by dedicated individuals who care about their community. Larry Allen is one such person; a man whose career in law enforcement made Tarpon Springs a safer place to live and work and whose concern for his community has improved the lives of many children in it. I am proud to represent Mr. Allen in Congress and commend him both for his police career and his service in the Cops and Kids program.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT SUPPORTS THE NATIONAL CHILD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the National Association of Town Watch and its National Night Out program for supporting the National Child Identification Program (NCIDP), a joint partnership between the American Football Coaches Association and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to provide identification kits to parents and guardians to help locate missing children. In addition, I applaud the AFCA and the FBI in their efforts to register 2 million more children in the NCIDP by August 5, 2003, the same day that National Night Out will celebrate its 20th anniversary.

The National Association of Town Watch (NATW), a national nonprofit community-crime prevention association located in Wynnwood, Pennsylvania, organizes the annual National Night Out. The National Night Out program develops relationships between local community and law enforcement officers in order to build safer and more secure neighborhoods to reduce crime, decreases local violence, and lowers the demand for drugs. NATW provides information, program support and technical assistance to local citizens and communities to support community-crime prevention. The National Night Out campaign involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from 9,850 communities from all 50 States and U.S. territories. In all, 33 million people participated in National Night Out in 2002.

I have participated in National Night Out several times and seen first hand its effectiveness in creating and supporting community crime watch programs. National Night Out has a greater presence in my State of Texas than any other state in the nation and the one in The Woodlands, Texas, my home town, has been named a national community-watch award winner for several years running.

As we all know, child safety and child protection have grown as important priorities for communities in recent years. Throughout its history, National Night Out has used its community crime-prevention message and its community-based networks to address major crime-related issues. National Night Out has proven to be a powerful tool for building stronger, safer neighborhoods, reaching more than 33 million Americans in nearly 10,000 cities and towns in 2002, making it the Nation's largest grassroots crime-prevention program.

This year, National Night Out will support the NCIDP in its efforts to provide parents with I.D. kits to collect and keep specific information, such as fingerprints, that would give authorities vital information in cases of missing children. While more than 800,000 children a year are estimated to be missing each year, less than 2 percent of all parents had a copy of a child's fingerprints to use in case of emergency. This initiative can change that reality and help protect children.

Mr. Speaker, supporting the NCIDP is just one example of the value of the National Night Out program and the important role of NATW.